Watlington Neighbourhood Plan Forum Coordination Group

Minutes of 21st meeting :15/08/2016 – West Room 7.30pm

Present:  Gill Bindoff (Facilitator),  Norman Perry , Keith Jackson, Pepita Bianchi, Tony Powell, Rebecca Broadbent, Peter Richardson

1. Apologies for absence:- Rob Smith , Pauline Harvey, David Cotterell
2. Declarations of Interest - none
3. Minutes of the meeting on 20/07/2016 – these were read and it was suggested that the reference in section 4 to the Thames Water Plan for Watlington should be updated with the contents of a letter from Thames Water in response to Watlington’s expected housing allocation.
[Action: GB to provide letter
 KJ to update minutes]
4. Progress Reports
Sustainability Appraisal:-
This is mostly complete . PB is still waiting for Gantt chart and copyright statements
Together with the Scoping report the Sustainability Appraisal may have to form a separate document .
[PR to look for Gantt chart and provide it.]
[Need to check copyright statements with Ian Hill]
GB reported that a Biodiversity report for Watlington from the Thames Valley Environmental Records Centre (tverc), which will include wildlife sites in the Parish and an overall species census should be available soon .
Sites:-
TP reported on preparations for the two Site evaluation workshops which will take place on 27th August and 3rd September (both Saturday)
The Sites spreadsheet now focuses on available sites + 3 small sites subject to planning approval + the two ‘Pyrton’ sites Wat7 and Wat 8. This is a working document and not yet finalised.
TJ has produced a template worksheet for conducting the site evaluation process and this will be used to complete a summary sheet with ‘traffic light ‘ colours that will contribute to the assessment of sites.

The sites capacities should be considered in the light of the SODC landscape capacity assessments(Kirkham)
There will need to be further stages to feed in the traffic reports and sustainability objectives, Housing recommendations and ‘What Watlington wants’/consultation 2 results.
PR reported that the Providence Land outline application for WAT8 is now registered at SODC.
Traffic:-
Locality have approved a grant of £4500 towards the traffic consultations/modelling + £1500 for publicity expenditure by the WNDP, but nothing towards sustainability consulting costs, but this can be reapplied for.
There have been responses from four consultants about the modelling/evaluation of various traffic options.
We should continue to work with our contact James Gagg at SODC and also we may be able to engage with Pyrton for some of the traffic work.
The HCA are willing to provide some assistance too. We have a contact in OCC whom we should also approach.
[PR – re-approach locality to secure some funding towards the cost of consultancy help with sustainability appraisal/environmental statement]
Infrastructure;-
The group are to have a meeting to resolve loose ends regarding car parking recommendations and Flood Prevention. There may be updated data on Flood Zones from the Environment Agency to consider.
5.Chalgrove Airfield
This is being universally opposed by Chalgrove and the surrounding villages. The various residents organisations are mounting a coordinated programme to resist the proposals.

It seems quite likely that the HCA will need to focus on Infrastructure in general and route network strategy in particular as a priority before any building takes place and there could be a benefit to the Watlington NP traffic options evaluations, as well as a future benefit from an improved route strategy in the area.

6. SODC Local Plan
Matt Reid has drafted a WPC response. GB will draft a NP Forum response .
[Note: GB has now provided the NP Forum response]

7.AOB
PR has been updating the WNDP website .
[All: - please visit and check the WNDP website for accuracy and completeness]

8. Future Meetings
NPFCG – 12th September 2016
There will be the two development sites workshops on 27th August and 3rd September.
The DS group will have a meeting in between on September 1st